

## **PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (PEPP)**

*Catalyst for Holistic Environment Partnership*

The Philippine Environment Partnership Program (PEPP) was created under DENR Administrative Order No. 2003-14 that aims to support industry self-regulation towards improved environmental performance. It is designed to give recognition and incentives to individual establishments that go beyond compliance and demonstrate superior environmental performance (Track 1 Category) and provides assistance for industry associations and establishments that are not yet able to comply with the existing environmental regulations but nonetheless committed to improve their environmental performance (Track 2 Category).

### **PEPP PROGRAMS**

#### Track 1 Category Program

The PEPP Track 1 covers establishments with demonstrated superior environmental performance. The PEPP aims to encourage these establishments to go beyond compliance by recognizing their environmental achievement through rewards and incentives. Through the PEPP, EMB-DENR intends to create a ripple effect of superior environmental performance among various establishments and industries in the country.

Under PEPP Track 1, industries are recognized for their initiatives that go beyond compliance which means they should have had no cases filed with the Pollution Adjudication Board for three years prior to the date of application, they are in full compliance with all applicable environmental laws, and have demonstrated superior environmental performance such as implementing successful environmental management system, pollution prevention or waste minimization initiatives and community or social responsibility programs.

The PEPP has already awarded seventy-six (76) DENR Official Seal of Approval to fifty-seven (57) establishments which exhibited superior environmental compliances and practices. Majority of the awardees came from the Energy Sector (37%) while the other recipients are from these industries: Semiconductor (17%), Food Manufacturing (14%), Beverage Manufacturing (13%), Oil Depot (5%), Cement Manufacturing (5%), Smelting (3%), Paint Manufacturing (1%), Car Manufacturing (1%), Pulp and Paper (1%) and Natural Gas Refinery (1%).

Last October 12, 2016, EDC Green Core Geothermal, Inc., a geothermal power plant located in Leyte, bagged again the DENR Seal of Approval and the sole awardee for 2015.

#### Track 2 Category Program

The Track 2 Category Program of PEPP involves establishments that are not yet in full compliance with applicable environmental laws, rules, and regulations but are nonetheless aiming and committed to improving their environmental performance. The PEPP encourages these establishments to achieve full compliance by providing them with corresponding assistance. Track 2 Category is designed to assist industry associations or individual establishments (in particular small and medium enterprises (SME)).

Under PEPP Track 2, successful applicants of the assistance program involves the Environment Consent Agreement (ECONA). The ECONA is a legally binding agreement entered between the DENR-EMB and an industry association or individual establishment. Participating establishments or associations specifically commit the following:

- Implement Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) within the framework of Environmental Management System (EMS)
- Attain waste reduction targets within an agreed timeframe and agree to means of verification;
- Adopt pollution prevention and/or cleaner production
- Provide progress environmental performance report to EMB

Participants are bound by the terms of the Environmental Consent Agreement (ECONA) and accountable for the compliance of their respective commitments. Out of several associations conferred with ECONA, Center for Alcohol Research and Development (CARD) Foundation exhibits commendable implementation by continuously improving and monitoring each participating members' environmental compliance and practices.

To update and strengthen the implementation of the program, the current program guidelines are being revised. For more updates regarding the current activities of PEPP, kindly visit our website, <http://pepp.emb.gov.ph>.

Annex A. Pictures



Track 1 Awardee for 2015 at H20 Hotel, Manila City



Review-Workshop on the Revision of PEPP Policy and Guidelines held at NDN Hotel, Sto. Tomas, Batangas last November 8-11, 2016